

MARYLAND AGRI-FACTS



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CHICKENS & EGGS

Maryland laying flocks produced 67million eggs during March 2003, of which 64 million were table eggs and 3 million were hatching eggs. The average rate of lay was 75.6 percent. The average number of layers on hand during March 2003 was 2,858,000. On April 1, 2003, 0 percent of all hens were being molted in Maryland and 26.5 percent of all layers had been through a molt.

U.S. egg production totaled 7.36 billion during March 2003, down 1 percent from last year. Production included 6.26 billion table eggs and 1.11 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.04 billion were broiler-type and 64.0 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during March 2003 averaged 338 million, up slightly from a year earlier. March egg production per 100 layers was 2,181 eggs, down 1 percent from March 2002. All layers in the U.S. on April 1, 2003, totaled 338 million, slightly higher than a year ago. The 338 million layers consisted of 278 million layers producing table or commercial type eggs, 57.3 million layers producing broiler-type hatching eggs, and 2.63 million layers producing egg-type hatching eggs. Rate of lay per day on April 1, 2003, averaged 70.8 eggs per 100 layers, down lightly from a year ago.

Laying flocks in the 30 major egg producing States produced 6.87 billion eggs during March 2003, down 1 percent from a year ago. The average number of layers during March, at 315 million, down slightly from a year ago. Egg-type chicks hatched during

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March totaled 36.7 million, down 1 percent from March 2002. Eggs in incubators totaled 34.3 million on April 1, 2003, up 3 percent from a year ago. Domestic placements of egg-type pullet chicks for future hatchery supply flocks by leading breeders totaled 315,000 during March 2003, up 33 percent from March 2002. The March 2003 hatch of broiler-type chicks, at 775 million, was down 2 percent from March of the previous year. There were 638 million eggs in incubators on April 1, 2003, down 1 percent from a year earlier. Leading breeders placed 6.3 million broiler-type pullet chicks for future domestic hatchery supply flocks during March 2003, down 7 percent from March 2002.



Eggs and Layers: March 2002 and 2003

Item	2002	2003	2003/2002
Eggs Produced During March			
	<i>Million</i>		<i>Percent</i>
Maryland	74	67	91
U.S.	7,417	7,363	99
Layers, Average Number During March			
	<i>Thousand</i>		
Maryland	3,233	2,858	88
U.S.	337,447	337,598	100
Eggs / 100 Layers During March			
	<i>Number</i>		
Maryland	2,289	2,344	102
U.S.	2,198	2,181	99

MILK PRODUCTION

Maryland dairy operators produced 331 million pounds of milk during the January-March quarter, down 0.6 percent from the same 3 months a year earlier. The number of milk cows decreased by 2,000, and yield per cow averaged 4,190 pounds per cow for the period, 80 pounds per cow above 2002. United States milk production during the January-March quarter totaled 43.0 billion pounds, up 1.3 percent from the January-March

quarter last year. The average number of milk cows in the U.S. during the quarter was 9.16 million head, 43,000 head more than the same period last year. Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,664 pounds for March, 10 pounds above March 2002. The number of cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.81 million head, 67,000 head more than March 2002 and 2,000 head more than February 2003.

MILK COWS AND MILK PRODUCTION JANUARY-MARCH, 2002&2003

State	Milk Cows ¹		Milk Production ²		2003/2002
	2002	2003	2002	2003	
	<i>Thousand</i>		<i>Million Pounds</i>		<i>Percent</i>
Maryland	81	79	333	331	-0.6
United States	9,112	9,155	42,397	42,958	1.3

¹ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

² Excludes milk sucked by calves.

DAIRY PRODUCTS

Total cheese production, excluding cottage cheeses, was 8.60 billion pounds, 4.1 percent above 2001 production. Wisconsin was the leading State with 26.0 percent of the production. American type cheese production was 3.71 billion pounds, 4.7 percent below 2002 and accounted for 43.1 percent of total cheese in 2002. Italian varieties, with 3.51 billion pounds were 2.4 percent above 2001 production. Mozzarella accounted for 80.2 percent of the Italian production followed by Provolone

with 7.5 percent and Ricotta with 6.8 percent. Wisconsin was the leading State in Italian cheese production with 27.7 percent of the production. Butter production in the United States during 2002 totaled 1.36 billion pounds, 10.0 percent above 2001. California accounted for 27.6 percent of the production, followed by Wisconsin with 25.3 percent.

ANNUAL DAIRY PRODUCTS, MARYLAND & UNITED STATES

	MARYLAND		UNITED STATES	
	2001	2002	2001	2002
Production				
			<i>-----1,000 Gallons -----</i>	
Ice Cream Regular	----	21,630	970,121	988,883
Lowfat Ice Cream ¹	6,962	----	380,165	361,587

¹ Includes District of Columbia.

AGRICULTURAL PRICES

Prices received for the month of April were mixed. The wheat price decreased twelve cents to \$2.78 per bushel. The barley price was up two cents to a price of \$2.22 per bushel. Soybeans moved up eight cents per bushel from last month's price of \$5.77 and corn was down five cents to \$2.78 per bushel.

four years. Livestock prices appeared were mostly down from March. Calf prices were down to \$75.30, per cwt but beef cattle had a \$0.80 per cwt increase. Hog prices decreased to \$30.00 per cwt.

Hay prices reached \$172.50 per ton, the highest April price in

Commodity	Unit	Maryland and Delaware			United States			Parity Price
		APR	MAR	APR	APR	MAR	APR	
		2002	2003	2003	2002	2003	2003 ¹	
Dollars								
Wheat, Winter	BU	2.55	2.84	2.72	2.75	3.29	3.17	9.68
Corn	BU	2.22	2.83	2.78	1.91	2.33	2.35	6.62
Barley	BU	1.64	2.20	2.22	2.09	2.83	2.87	6.55
Soybeans	BU	4.60	5.77	5.85	4.47	5.60	5.90	14.50
All Hay, Baled	TON	148.00	168.00	172.50	98.30	92.80	94.50	----
All Beef Cattle	CWT	68.80	71.80	72.60	67.30	72.70	75.00	161.00
Calves	CWT	100.40	78.40	75.30	101.00	97.00	99.10	216.00
Hogs	CWT	29.60	32.50	30.00	31.70	34.70	33.80	103.00
Milk, Fluid MKT	CWT	14.00	N/A	N/A	12.50	11.00	10.90	33.50
Chickens ²	LB	0.087	0.081	0.081	----	----	----	----
Broilers	LB	0.343	0.310	0.298	0.280	0.330	0.310	----
Turkeys, Live	LB	----	----	----	0.329	0.351	0.351	0.985
Eggs, Market	DOZ	0.496	0.595	0.597	0.325	0.518	0.520	1.59

¹ Mid-Month Forecast, Entire Month Price. ² Does not include broilers

INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED			
INDEX AND RATIOS	UNITED STATES 1990 - 92 =100		
	APR	MAR	APR
	2002	2003	2003
All Farm Products	94	99	101
All Crops	100	*105	111
Feed Grain & Hay	92	*106	107
Oil- Bearing Crops	80	*101	106
Fruits & Nuts	90	86	98
All Livestock and Livestock Products	89	*93	93
Meat Animals	87	93	96
Dairy Products	96	84	83
Poultry and Eggs	87	*103	99
Ratio ¹	76	78	79
Prices Paid Index	123	127	128

POULTRY PRODUCTION

* Revised ¹ Ratio of index of prices received by farmers to index prices paid

The combined value of production from broilers, eggs, turkeys and the value of sales from chickens in 2002, was \$20.4 billion, down 15 percent from the \$24.0 billion in 2001. Of the combined total, 66 percent was from broilers, 21 percent from eggs, 13 percent from turkeys, and less than 1 percent from other chickens. The value of broilers produced during 2002 was \$13.4 billion, down 20 percent from 2001. The total number of broilers produced in 2002 was 8.59 billion, up 2 percent from 2001. The

total amount of live weight broilers produced in 2002 was 44.1 billion pounds, up 4 percent from 2001. The 2002 average price per pound on a live weight equivalent basis was 30.5 cents per pound, down 22 percent from 39.3 cents in 2001 and the lowest broiler price since 1987.

POULTRY PRODUCTION & VALUE, MARYLAND & UNITED STATES 2001-2002 ¹

	Eggs			Broilers ²			
	Eggs Produced	Price/ Dozen	Value Of Production	Number Produced	Pounds Produced	Price Per Pound	Value of Production
Maryland	-Million-	-Dollars-	-Thousand \$-	-1,000 head-	-1,000 #-	-Dollars-	-Thousand \$-
2001	870	0.607	44,008	287,800	1,381,400	0.400	552,560
2002	894	0.565	42,092	292,900	1,376,600	0.320	440,512
United States	-Million-	-Dollars-	-Thousand \$-	-1,000 head-	-1,000 #-	-Dollars-	-Thousand \$-
2001	85,745	0.622	4,446,312	8,389,090	42,445,800	0.393	16,693,515
2002	86,698	0.590	4,262,662	8,590,180	44,050,400	0.305	13,434,771

¹ December 1, 2000, through November 30, 2001.

² Broiler production including other domestic meat-type breeds.